GIS
Idaho State Tax Commission

Query Related Table

Once tables have an association via a Relate, you are able to query any related table to enhance the information describing your spatial layer.

The ability to query and use data from another outside table is the main advantage of a Relate.

In this example, we will query the external related table for ownership names to use for labels.

The highlighted fields are the links between the two tables.

The parcels layer displayed in the map project does not contain ownership data.

So, we will also use the Select by Attribute to query the AS400 table, pcparc00.

To query an external table it must be added to the map project.

See the video “Create a Relate” to see how to accomplish this task.

Start by opening the dbf table pcparc00.

A relationship is already established between these two tables, with the spatial data showing for the parcel’s layer in the map project.

In the pcparc00 table we are able to find the names of the parcel owners.

There are two simple ways to locate the records of concern.

Let’s say we are looking for all the parcels owned by 77 Ranch LLC.

One way is to sort the name field and then scroll through all the records to find the ones you are interested in.

Right-click on the field heading and choose Sort Ascending.

Scroll through all the records to find the ones you are interested in.

This can be cumbersome when you are dealing with large datasets.

Clear the selected features by clicking the Options Button and then selecting Clear Selection.

The other is to write a simple query in the Select by Attribute dialog.

Click the options button at the bottom of the page.

From the menu, go to Select by Attributes.

The Select by Attribute dialog will open.

By default, the Method: will be filled in with Create a New Selection, which is the appropriate choice for this example.

In the item list find and double-click PM_mail_nm, the field containing the ownership values.

Then click once on the equal operator.

Next, click on the Get Unique Values Button.

Within the list find and double-click the value 77 Ranch LLC.

You could also type in this value instead of searching through the Unique Values list – just remember to put a single quote around the name.

Also, when typing you have to spell the name exactly how it appears in the table.

You can make sure the query is constructed correctly with the verify button.

Caution - The verify button only tells you that your query is functional as written, it does not tell you that you've written it in a way to extract the information you need.

Now that we know the query expression is functional, choose Apply.

All the 77 Ranch LLC records are selected.

Now let's look at the map. There are no selected features.

Remember we created the query for the external dbf not the parcel layer attribute table.

We have to promote the selected records to the parcel layer.

This is easily done by selecting the options button again

From the menu go to Related Tables and then choose relate1: Countywide.

The parcels layer table will appear.

Choose the Selected Button to show the selected records.

Close the table and you can see the parcels are also selected in the map.

This concludes Query Related Tables.

Now you can watch *Create Layer from Selected Features* and turn the selected features into a separate layer to display.